

Coccidioides (Valley Fever) Test Menu

New Patients or Patients with Suspected Reactivation:

Test code 1061 – Coccidioides Panel w/reflex Confirm (IMDF) w/reflex to Comp Fix should be ordered. Follow-up Comp Fix titers will be automatically reflexed if IMDF is positive and will be held for six months. Stored samples can be used if follow-up Coccidioides Monitoring Panel (Comp Fix) (test code 901098) is ordered to follow disease progression.

Patients Previously Monitored with Comp Fix Testing by a Different Laboratory:

Patients should have a new baseline titer performed for the Coccidioides Monitoring test. We will offer the first Complement Fixation test (test code 1063) at no charge to determine a baseline for your patient. Please contact the Serology Department directly at 602.685.5134, or toll-free at 800.766.6721 ext. 5134, to arrange for baseline testing. If the baseline result is positive and you wish to monitor the titer, please order Coccidioides Monitoring Panel (Comp Fix) (test code 901098).

Test Name	Test Code	Specimen Requirements	Clinical Use Summary
Coccidioides Panel (Cocci IgM & IgG) w/reflex Confirm (IMDF) w/reflex Comp Fix (Titer)	1061	1.5 mL refrigerated serum from a serum separator tube (0.75 mL minimum).	This screening panel includes a qualitative antibody test for IgM and IgG. Reactive results will be confirmed via immunodiffusion (at an additional charge). Positive immunodiffusion results will reflex to complement fixation. Positive samples are stored frozen for six months while negative samples are stored frozen for one month.
Coccidioides Screen (Cocci IgM & IgG) w/reflex Confirm (IMDF)	1062	1.5 mL refrigerated serum from a serum separator tube (0.75 mL minimum).	This screening test is a qualitative antibody test that provides both IgM and IgG Cocci results. Reactive results will be confirmed via immunodiffusion (at an additional charge). This test can be used to determine an initial diagnosis of Cocci with a positive IgM and/or positive IgG result. Positive samples are stored frozen for six months while negative samples are stored frozen for one month.
Coccidioides Monitoring Panel (Comp Fix)	901098	1.5 mL refrigerated serum from a serum separator tube (0.75 mL minimum).	Used for monitoring patient disease progression or remission over time. Testing includes a Complement Fixation (CF) Titer on the current sample submitted, and on the most recent previously submitted sample retained by the laboratory (paired sera testing). All positive CF tests will be retained for 6 months frozen. A previous CF sample must be submitted within the last 6 months and be positive in order to perform paired sera testing. Paired testing will not be performed on CF samples with titers <1:2 as there is not prognostic benefit. Paired sera testing: Both samples (old retained sample and newly submitted sample) are tested concurrently by a single technologist using one lot of reagents and under the identical environmental conditions, thereby minimizing any differences in the titers due to these variables. This enables the clinician to more correctly interpret any differences in the CF titer, improving patient outcomes.

Tests on this chart may change periodically.

Coccidioides (Valley Fever) Test Menu

Recommended Coccidioidomycosis (Cocci) Testing Algorithm for Unknown Cocci Status or Suspected Reactivation

Test 1061 - Coccidioides Panel w/reflex Confirm (IMDF) w/reflex to Comp Fix

Screen is Positive for IgM, IgG, or both

Enzyme Immunoassay (EIA) results may have lower specificity than immunodiffusion (IMDF) studies (especially if IgM alone is reactive). EIA results should be interpreted in conjunction with IMDF results. If IMDF results are negative, correlation with the clinical findings and repeat testing in 1 to 3 weeks may be warranted.

Immunodiffusion Test

Positive for IgM, IgG, or both

Complement Fixation Test

Positive: 1:2 or greater

Used to baseline and monitor disease progression

Screen is Negative - Testing Completed

- IgM measurable between 1 and 3 weeks after onset
- IgG measurable between 2 and 28 weeks after onset
- If testing is negative but Cocci is still suspected, retest the patient in 5-7 days with test code 1061 - Cocci Panel (IgM & IgG) w/Reflex Confirm (IMDF) w/Reflex to Comp Fix

Negative - Testing Completed

- Interpret IMDF results in conjunction with EIA and clinical data
- If testing is negative but Cocci is still suspected, retest the patient in 5-7 days with test code 1061 - Cocci Panel (IgM & IgG) w/Reflex Confirm (IMDF) w/Reflex to Comp Fix

Negative: <1:2

Patient in remission (if a known Cocci positive) or have not sero-converted (if EIA and Immunodiffusion are positive).